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VOL. XXX.

AUGUSTA, MAINE, THURSDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 4, 1862.

NO. 51.

Maine Farmer.

BECKETT HOLMES, Editors.
S. L. BOARDMAN, Proprietor.

Our Home, our Country, and our Brother Man.

Finances for the Farmer.

Now is the time for the farmer to exhibit his financial shrewdness; to turn everything into channels which will bring him the greatest profit; to stop wastes and leaks wherever found; and to square up all debts, and when square, to keep so. Prices are high; it matters but little whether the article be gold or breadstuffs; they are higher than at any other period within the century. We were about writing an article on the above subject, when we came across the following in the *Agriculturist*, and because it is better than any we can write, we give it prominent place here, and commend it to the careful attention of all our readers:

"One of the marked events of the month is the rise in the value of gold, as compared with the legal tender currency of the country. At the time of this writing, gold is quoted at \$132— that is, \$100 in American gold coin, will buy \$132 of bank notes, or United States Treasury Notes, either of which pass current trade, or in the payment of debts at their par value. Any one having \$100 in gold can buy 100 bushels of wheat of a grade quoted in the market at \$1.32 per bushel. Or, *et cetera*, a farmer having 100 bushels of wheat, which in a foreign market would buy only \$100 in gold, and enough more to pay the expenses and profits of export, can sell it for \$132 of a currency that will pay his debts to the merchant, or on his farm, again, suppose a London grain dealer, whose purchases are on the gold basis, desires to procure 10,000 bushels of first grade wheat. In his own country, or elsewhere in Europe, he must pay, say \$1.30 per bushel, or \$13,000. The same grade of wheat quoted in New York at, say \$1.00 per bushel. Add 20 cents per bushel for freight, insurance, and other expenses, and the 10,000 bushels of wheat would cost him, delivered in London, \$1,800 per bushel, or \$18,000 in all. But his \$15,000 sent in gold, or laid out in exchange, would buy in New York \$19,500 of the par currency, from which he could pay \$18,000 for the 10,000 bushels of wheat, at \$1.80 per bushel, and \$2,000 for expenses, and yet save \$1,500. The same reasoning applies to other articles of export—flour, corn, potatoes, &c."

These figures, though not representing exactly the difference in prices, are a fair illustration of the effects upon our breadstuffs, and provision markets, of the recent rise in the value of gold, as compared with the legal currency of the country. The exporting of grain and provisions has been greatly stimulated, and shipments abroad have gone up to unprecedented figures, as detailed in another article.

We are not discussing the advantage or the disadvantage of this disturbance of the currency of the country. The country at large is not any richer because a hundred million of dollars are represented by a hundred and thirty-two million dollars of legal currency, instead of one hundred million dollar dollars, for the real value of the two are the same. The point to which we are now aiming at, is to show that the great advantage is in ensuring to the special benefit of farmers, even doubly so. First, it has created a greater foreign demand for our produce, as illustrated above, thus enlarging the market, and as increasing the prices. Second, the greater prices farmers receive for their grain, butter, meat, &c., though not in gold, are in a currency that is legal and acceptable, and as the payment of their debts to merchants, their land debts. The nominal rise, during the past month, of 10 to 20 cents per bushel in wheat, of \$1.20 to \$1.50 per barrel in corn, of 8 cents per bushel in corn, of 2 to 4 cents per bushel in oats, of 4 cents per lb. in butter, &c., is no such great gain to farmers, in the payment of debts previously contracted. But the rise in articles which farmers must buy, is nearly equal to the advance what they have to sell, and, on some articles. The advance in sugar, coffee, cotton and other cloths, however, is due more to the high tariff, taxes and other causes growing out of war, than to the advance in gold, and nearly the same prices would have prevailed had not farm products gone upward. It is evident, therefore, that however much the farmer may be benefited by the present disturbances in the currency of the country, farmers are clearly the gainers.

The practical lesson we must impress upon farmers is, that they must improve the present opportunity to pay off their liabilities, and get upon a safe ground. Because their products can be sold at higher figures than formerly, they must not increase their outlay by more expensive living, by running debt for debt, or for more land. Debts contracted now may have to be paid when money is of comparatively greater value—when a bushel of grain, or a barrel of butter, will not buy as much as it does now. Better take in cash, and be ready for any storm that may suddenly come. Stick to the old cash, hat, and carriage. A cheaper dress will suffice for a year or two. Patch up the old dwelling, it will keep the family comfortable a year or two longer. Put in a few extra acres, or rather provide for better cultivation for those already planned for. The inflation of the currency may continue a year or two, yet, in what manner it will continue to yield large nominal returns in the market. When they fall, you will need the more of them to sell. A financial pressure must come, when values return to the gold standard. The change may be gradual, or it may be sudden, and not all at once, in a crash and smash. The farmer who is then out of debt, and can raise from his own soil crops enough to supply the actual necessities of his household, and produce clothing—will be able to look out serenely upon the financial storm around him. The summing up of our discourse is: Now is the time for farmers to get out, and keep out of debt.

Straw for Paper.

It is no new thing to make paper of straw. The Germans have long made use of it and it has been considerably employed in this country, both alone and in connection with rags. One objection to its use has heretofore been that it is too brittle, and hence the necessity of mixing the pulp with pulp of cotton waste or grass. The scarcity of paper stock will call into use other materials and among these straw will be a prominent article. We see by the *Buffalo* (N. Y.) *Courier*, that L. C. Woodruff, an extensive paper maker in that city proposes to manufacture the best of paper—both for writing or printing—from straw exclusively. If successful, it will give a new value to a now nominally worthless agricultural product—but although it must be some time before it will be used to great extent, we are glad that a movement in this direction has been made. Mr. W. says:

"Straw will supply the place of rags, and leave the shoddy dealer unemployed. Straw paper of all kinds can now be found in market, and manufacturers are turning their attention to it. My mills are now working a fair proportion of straw, and I hope to be in a month, so as to work it exclusively in the manufacture of printing paper, with which I hope to be able to make good the hearts of printers and publishers generally. The country is full of this material, which signifies for a miller, and from it can be made all qualities of paper, from fine writing to coarse wrapping."

The Eighth Census.

We are indebted to Superintendent Kennedy of the Census Bureau, for a copy of the "Preliminary Report on the Eighth Census, 1860," received through the attentions of James L. Grinnell, Esq. of the Department of Agriculture. It is a well printed volume of 294 pages, and forms a most important document—a complete history of our industrial progress during the past ten years.

In 1790 Maine occupied the eleventh place among the States in the Union, there being but ten occupying a higher rank. In 1800 and 1810, it ranked the 14th; in 1820 and 1830 as the 12th; in 1840, as the 13th; in 1850, the 16th; and in 1860 as the 22d. In the extent of her territory, the State takes rank as the 24th, having an area of 31,776; in population it places the 19th place in the list (29.94); and the absolute increase of population per square mile (1.50) carries it almost to the end of the list of States, being denoted by 28.

The agricultural statistics show a large increase in most of the products. The cash value of farms was estimated at \$78,088,525, against \$54,861,748 in 1850; of farming machinery and implements \$3,298,327, while the census of 1850, gave the value of farm stock at \$15,437,380 in 1850, to \$9,705,720 in 1860. Pastures also show a great advance, so do the productions of the dairy. In fact there is considerable falling off, but a gain in the amount of flax grown. There is some diminution in the amount of domestic manufactures. Wheat also presents a small decrease. Altogether it gives a satisfactory statement of our own State agricultural and industrial progress, and places before us at a glance the growth and condition of the whole country, with its varied interests and pursuits.

The "Witherell Horse."

A short time since a correspondent made some inquiries in regard to the pedigree of the Witherell Horse, which at one time stood very high in Somerset county, and left some good stock. We are able to give him a little information, and in doing so go back to the history of the old "Witherell Messenger."

The Messenger horse brought to this country by Alvin Hayward of Wintthrop, about the year 1820, was a grandson of Imported Messenger, imported Messenger was brought from England by Mr. Bonger, and arrived in New York in 1791. He was bred by John Pratt of New Market, Eng. and was foaled in 1780. He stood two years in Philadelphia, and was afterwards sold to Henry Astor. Standing one season on Long Island, he was carried to Dutchess county, N. Y. and died in 1808. The Messenger brought to Maine was described as "a large muscular horse, white in color, with a clumsy head, and rather large legs."

He was purchased in New York and died in Anson, Somerset county.

The "Witherell Horse" was sired by the old Wintthrop Messenger, and was raised at Noddridge, by S. B. Witherell. He was foaled June, 1834. After passing through several hands—he owned most of the time in Somerset county—he died in the fall of 1858, at which time he was owned by Mr. Fassett of Industry. "Witherell" was regarded as the best stock horse ever introduced into Somerset county, and left some illustrious descendants. Who can inform us of the dam of the "Witherell Horse."

Circulars from the Department.

We are favored with several circulars from the Commissioner of Agriculture. They embrace brief reports on the Agricultural, Mineral and Manufacturing condition and resources of the United States; on the chemical analysis of twenty-four varieties of grapes, submitted to the Department by Charles M. Witherell, Ph. D. Chemist to the Department; and on the objects and aims of the U. S. Propagation Garden, with a catalogue of the plants, bulbs, tubers, etc. now ready for distribution by the Department. This last report is from the pen of Wm. Saunders, a well known Horticulturist, and Superintendent of the Garden, and embraces many interesting statements for which we shall find room hereafter.

Agricultural Colleges.

The State of Iowa has sent to the General Land Office official notice of her acceptance of the proposition of the land appropriated during the last session of Congress for the benefit of all the States in the establishment of colleges for the promotion of agriculture and the mechanics. Are not our State authorities going to take some action in regard to that portion of the land belonging to Maine, and signifying to the President their intention to appropriate it in the manner assigned, as the last clause of the act requires? The attention of our reader is invited to the communication upon this subject in another column, from the pen of E. P. Weston, Esq., our State Superintendent. We hope our forthcoming Legislature will take action in the matter.

Corn Stalks for Horses.

A writer in the *Country Gentleman* having said that corn stalks used for fodder, are a sure cure for horses in the milder stages of the disease, the New York *Argus* remarks: "Experiments made by us many years ago, proved to our satisfaction that corn stalks are a very desirable fodder for horses afflicted with that disease. They manifestly afford relief, whether they will or will not effect a cure." Have any of our readers made a trial of this?

Communications.

For the Maine Farmer.

The Agricultural College.

A Letter to Gov. Colburn and the Legislature.

GENTLEMEN:—It is a matter of congratulation that amidst the pressing war duties devolved upon Congress at its last session, time was found to mature and enact so many measures of public utility in the interests of peace. Among these is the act to provide for agricultural and scientific education in the several States of the Union. By this act, a grant of public lands, equal to thirty thousand acres for each member of Congress under the permanent form of the land not provided for, which shall accept it with the annexed conditions, within two years from the date of the President's signature, July 21, 1862. To secure the benefits of this appropriation, action must be taken by the Legislature. As the time for the meeting of this body approaches, it is perhaps well that the subject be brought to the attention of the people and their representatives.

Under the new appropriation.

Under the new appropriation we have seven members of Congress—five Representatives and two Senators—whose grant, as our portion of this magnificent grant, two hundred and ten thousand acres. The most valuable of these is \$1.20 per acre, or \$252,500 in the aggregate. The whole to be worth but one dollar per acre. We have the sum of \$240,000, ten per cent. of which must be expended for building sites and other permanent forms. The remainder is to be funded in the secure manner; the interest only to be used for the support of the college or colleges, which may be put in operation.

Allowing for any contingencies which may arise, if we estimate the entire fund at \$200,000, and deduct ten per cent. for sites and funds, we have \$180,000 to be invested. Suppose this the course of instruction shall not be limited to agricultural and mechanical studies is a very wise one. This restricted, it would have failed to confer upon the community the full benefits of which it is capable. The course of instruction—in the pecuniary fund, and in the liberal course of study which may be adopted—may we build up an institution of which the State may be proud, and in the benefits of which her poorest sons may rejoice.

THE NORMAL ELEMENT.

The branches to be taught in the agricultural college will include those required in our normal schools, and the science of agriculture, and the mechanic arts. "Without excluding other scientific and classical studies, and including military tactics." The clause providing that the course of instruction shall not be limited to agricultural and mechanical studies is a very wise one. This restricted, it would have failed to confer upon the community the full benefits of which it is capable. The course of instruction—in the pecuniary fund, and in the liberal course of study which may be adopted—may we build up an institution of which the State may be proud, and in the benefits of which her poorest sons may rejoice.

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THE COST TO THE STATE.

It was probably a well considered feature of the act, that no part of the appropriation can be used for the erection of buildings, the purchase of land, or the establishment of institutions of learning, there have been too many examples of imprudent expenditures for mere externals, leaving the State with a large debt, and no permanent benefit. This will probably be urged as an objection to accepting the grant. A wise policy, however, will not long weigh the expenditure of a few thousand dollars for this purpose against the magnificent donation thus placed within our reach. If the State should hesitate, in these times of pressure, to make the necessary appropriation for the erection of new buildings, there are other methods of doing so, and the State institutions now in operation, there are several which would be very ready to offer the use of their buildings for this purpose.

The State of Iowa has sent to the General Land Office official notice of her acceptance of the proposition of the land appropriated during the last session of Congress for the benefit of all the States in the establishment of colleges for the promotion of agriculture and the mechanics. Are not our State authorities going to take some action in regard to that portion of the land belonging to Maine, and signifying to the President their intention to appropriate it in the manner assigned, as the last clause of the act requires? The attention of our reader is invited to the communication upon this subject in another column, from the pen of E. P. Weston, Esq., our State Superintendent. We hope our forthcoming Legislature will take action in the matter.

Is Pork Raising Profitable?

Messrs. Editors:—In a communication in the *Farmer* of Nov. 13th, your correspondent "West Gardner," proves to his satisfaction that pork raising is a profitable business. I intend that I was making a handsome profit if his figures show a loss of only \$1.61 on each hog.

It is an easy thing to show by such reckoning as this, that pork raising is a profitable business. I intend that I was making a handsome profit if his figures show a loss of only \$1.61 on each hog. It is an easy thing to show by such reckoning as this, that pork raising is a profitable business. I intend that I was making a handsome profit if his figures show a loss of only \$1.61 on each hog.

Successful Orcharding in Washington County.

Messrs. Editors:—I see you have given an invitation for all farmers to write for the *Farmer*, and thought that I might contribute my mite. It may do some good, though I make no pretensions as a writer for the press. I wish to say a few words about raising an orchard under the eastern part of Washington county, as I have been experimenting in that business the past twenty years.

First, I will state the manner in which I prepare the land previous to setting my fruit trees. The ground is cleared of all brush and weeds, and is left in a state of nature for three or four years till the soil is rich, removing all the stones of any size, and manuring high while cultivating. Then the land is in good order for setting the trees.

It would not be profitable if I had to purchase all you feed to an animal. It needs no arithmetic to prove the truth of that. But if you raise what you feed, the result will be different. A ton of hay, a bushel of corn or grain or a bushel of potatoes grown on your own farm does not cost as much as it will sell for in the market; if it did, you never could get a living by farming. Hence, if you raise what you feed to your stock, then stock raising will be profitable, when it would be ruinous if you had it to buy. If your correspondent thought what he fed to his hogs he lost money, but if he raised it he made money. Some may say, if they have corn, they will sell for more than it will bring when fed to stock, then why not sell it? If you do this you deprive yourself of the means of raising more, by carrying every thing off without bringing anything back in the form of manure. That farmer is most successful who practices feeding his products to stock, thereby increasing his manure, which in its turn increases his crops.

Greene, Nov. 19th, 1862. Z. A. G.

Practical Entomology—No. 11.

BY GEO. E. BRACKETT.

As winter approaches, insect life seems to be active, and with a few exceptions, remains dormant. The most common of these is the house fly, which is caused by the wings and voices of myriad insects which filled the air during the warm season, has entirely disappeared, and the only active representative of the insect world is the house fly. This insect has been sheltered in some warm and cozy place, and is now coming out to the world. It is a pest to the farmer, and is a pest to the householder. It is a pest to the farmer, and is a pest to the householder. It is a pest to the farmer, and is a pest to the householder.

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Putting Off.

"To-morrow" is a bad day for farming. It is largely responsible for poor crops, poor stock, and poor success generally. What we intend to do and could not be persuaded to abandon—necessary and indispensable work—often get it off to-morrow, and then it is too late. We do not intend to do it, we simply never get it off. You would be shocked beyond measure if required to give away, or destroy, half your apples and pumpkins—you do worse by gathering them to-morrow—alas! letting them freeze.

It would be thought crazy who should apply a loco-foco match and burn up his hay; put off cutting it three weeks too long, and that result is substantially arrived at, but the owner keeps clear of the lunatic asylum.

The man who burns green rotten wood, holds, in the abstract, with other philosophers, that happiness is pleasant than misery; he simply puts off putting off putting off. The farmer who stocks his farm with "noxious weeds," if put upon his honor, will confess to a preference for corn or clover; he merely puts off making the change.

Agricultural Miscellany.

Farmers' Clubs.

Under the excitement of war, there is a tendency in the public mind to overlook the important fact that agriculture constitutes the main foundation to its support. It is an established maxim, that in contests for supremacy, those nations which produce in the greatest degree the means of human subsistence and the articles consumed by civilized society, will ultimately bear sway. Nothing, therefore, which can conduce to the advancement of agriculture should be neglected. We have expressed similar views when the country was in a state of peace. Several societies have been organized for the purpose of promoting agriculture, and the attention of the people was so much occupied by national affairs that it was impossible to hold them. We argued that if these societies were ever made of any practical utility, they were never needed than at the present time. If they had never done any good, and are incapable of doing any more, they are a waste of time and money. There are some societies which, departing from the spirit and ground-work of their charters, have made their exhibitions mainly the occasion of frolic and amusement, and have thus lost the object of their organization. It is natural that the patronage given to such displays should diminish under the present circumstances of the country, and the community will not be long in withdrawing its patronage from them.

But our special object in this article, is to urge the maintenance of farmers' clubs. The season has returned when the meetings of such associations are usually held. Clubs have been formed to a considerable extent in this State, and are occasionally to be found over a large portion of the country. When they have been properly managed, they have been unquestionably productive of much good to the community. They have been the means of disseminating knowledge, and of promoting the interests of agriculture. They have been the means of promoting the interests of agriculture, and of promoting the interests of agriculture.

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Maine Farmer.

Augusta, Thursday, Dec. 4, 1862.

Notice.
Mr. S. N. TAYLOR will call upon subscribers in the counties of Hancock and Washington.
Col. Wm. S. SWANN, of South Paris, will call upon subscribers in Androscoggin County.
Mr. H. P. WELLS, of China, will call upon subscribers in Lincoln and Knox Counties.
Mr. WARREN FLETCHER, of Portland, will call upon subscribers in Somerset County.

The Storm Overblown.

In another column will be found the correspondence of the Ministers of the three great European Powers in reference to a proposed intervention or mediation, having for its professed object the suspension of the war now being waged by the government and people of the United States for the suppression of the Southern rebellion. For months past the public mind has been agitated by apprehensions of the possible intervention of Europe in our domestic troubles. There have been times when the fortunes of the conflict have apparently been on the side of the rebellion, and the prospects of ultimate success in our national struggle have seemed doubtful and hopeless. We have lost battles. Our splendid armies have been terribly thinned by fighting and disease. We have been driven back in the defense of New Orleans, from positions which had been acquired through unparalleled danger and toil and bloodshed. Advantages which, but for the incomprehensible slowness, or timidity or incapacity of those in command might have contributed to the complete triumph of our arms, and the speedy termination of the war, have been turned disastrously against us, and our weary and almost dispirited soldiers have been compelled again and again to begin the work anew. Yet from adversity and defeat the nation has risen stronger, more determined, and if possible, more hopeful than before. Men have felt with the deep conviction which comes from the consciousness of right and justice, that all reverses to the federal cause must be merely temporary. They have estimated the comparative physical resources of the North and the South—have weighed the moral elements and motives which enter into the conflict and which have inspired our people with a holy and heroic energy in behalf of their flag, their constitution and their country—and they could not doubt the final result.

But with all this, the danger of foreign intervention has constantly brooded over the country with baleful portent. Although proudly conscious of its power to cope with and overthrow treason and rebellion at home, the nation has dreaded an irruption of foreign armies and the descent of foreign fleets. By combined action, European aid could break our blockades, and replenish the exhausted strength of the South with unlimited reinforcements of men and material. We in return could inflict terrible injury upon them, and might still be able, with the vast resources of the country as yet untouched, to repel foreign aggression and suppress domestic revolt together. It would be a fearful trial however, and every patriotic heart has prayed to have this cup pass from us.

The impending cloud has for the present been dissipated. By the correspondence referred to, it appears that the attempt of the French Emperor to break the cooperation of the English and Russian Governments has failed. The long-looked-for friendship of Russia stands in good stead.—England would like to intervene for the sake of the cotton of the South, but the counts the cost of every speculation before she engages in it. Rich-

ard and Cobden, one of the most able and honest of her statesmen, tells his countrymen that six months of a war with the United States, which would be sure to follow any attempted mediation, would cost England more than the support of all her starting cotton operatives for ten years, "even if they were fed on turtle, champagne and venison."

We may be sure that Louis Napoleon will not dare to undertake the enterprise alone. The question of foreign intervention, therefore, has been for the present definitely set at rest. The energies of our government will be devoted to the single purpose of crushing this rebellion and restoring its authority over the revolted States.—When that is done England and France will obtain the coveted cotton—not for free.

THE INCOME TAX. By the provisions of the national tax bill all incomes for the present year are to be made up to December 31. Every one should then have a very clear record of their income, gains or profits for the year. And many sources of income, such as dividends, and railroad bonds and stock, insurance stock, savings bank interest, &c., (they having already paid the income tax) are not again taxed, it therefore becomes necessary to have a clear record of the sources of income, that there may be any dispute with the assessor.

The income tax for the year 1862, is payable on the 1st of May, 1863.

A man in business must make up the net profits of his business for the year, and pay the tax on the amount, less \$500.

A man may, outside his business, spend all and even more than his profits in business; nevertheless he must pay tax on all net business profits except the \$500. And so with a salary; all over \$500 must be taxed, though personal or family expenses consume it all.

ECLIPSE OF THE MOON. Early on the morning of Saturday December 6th, the moon throughout the United States will be totally eclipsed. The moon will not however wholly disappear, but will continue faintly visible, rayless, and in color and appearance resembling a tarnished copper disk. Indeed, it has been estimated that only about nine-tenths of the light of this satellite is intercepted, when it is wholly immersed in the shadow of the earth. In this State, the eclipse will commence at 11:10 o'clock, A. M.; the total immersion will continue from 2:10 to 3:51; and the whole will terminate at 5 o'clock. This will be the last "total" eclipse of the Moon visible in this country within several years. One will occur on the 1st of June next, the whole of which can be seen in Europe and part in the island of Newfoundland, but even at Eastport, the most eastern point in the United States, the Moon will not rise that day until after having begun to emerge from the shadow of the Earth.

SAVE YOUR RAGS AND OLD PAPERS. During the present scarcity of stock for making paper, all families and individuals will benefit themselves by the public by saving everything adapted to the manufacture of paper and promptly selling it to the paper-makers. Old newspapers, the waste and sweepings of our stores and houses, now command from four to six cents a pound. Doubtless many families waste energy in kindling fires in the course of a year to supply themselves with a weekly and perhaps a daily newspaper.

A MILITARY SCHOOL IN MAINE. The Portland Press advocates the establishment of a Military School in Maine, and suggests the expediency of Legislative action upon the subject. Hon. E. P. Weston suggests a similar idea in connection with the subject of a State Agricultural School to come before the Legislature this winter.

WE are indebted to Hon. L. M. Morrill for the Congressional Globe containing the proceedings and debates in Congress for 1861—a valuable work. Also for a copy of the Official Army Register for 1862. He will please accept our thanks for this and other similar favors.

THE WAR NEWS OF THE WEEK. The army in front of Fredericksburg has as yet made no movement. Although the main body of Lee's forces is concentrated in the vicinity, the city itself is not occupied by the rebels in large force. Both armies confront each other, with the Rappahannock between them, but no indications are given as yet when the conflict is to begin. The roads are reported to be in bad condition for army movements, but the completion of the railroad from Aquia Creek to the Rappahannock secures the prompt transportation of supplies and removes all occasion for anxiety in that respect. The question which is now frequently asked is, why does not the army begin to do something. Of course we know nothing of Gen. Burnside's plans, but we have no doubt he understands the situation and has excellent reasons for postponing the attack upon Fredericksburg. He visited Washington Friday last and had a long conference with the President and Gen. Halleck. It is understood that the most cordial and confidential relations exist between Gen. Burnside and the Government, and that his plans for the campaign are warmly endorsed by the President and his military councilors, who will do every thing possible on their part to crown them with complete success. The army is reported to be in excellent spirits and have perfect confidence in the ability of their General to lead them on to victory in his own time and his own way.

Among the incidents of the past week is the successful reconnaissance made by Gen. Geary from Harper's Ferry on Wednesday last up the Shenandoah, in which several companies of Virginia cavalry were surprised and routed with the loss of men, horses and equipments. A large cloth factory which had been running night and day manufacturing cloths for the rebels was destroyed, and large quantities of cloths captured and brought away.

On the other hand a large cavalry force of the enemy made a dash on Friday last across the Rappahannock, some distance above the headquarters of the army, surrounding and capturing two companies of Pennsylvania cavalry.

To offset this mortifying affair, however, we have the account of a brilliant operation in Western Virginia, accomplished by Col. Paxton of the Virginia Cavalry, this week, in which after marching his command 210 miles in seventy hours, part of the way through a pelting snow storm, he came upon the enemy in the vicinity of Frankfort, attacked them with vigor, and after a short fight defeated him, capturing two companies of officers, 108 non-commissioned officers and privates, 100 horses, between 200 and 300 stand of arms, and burned his camp and all his equipment, his stores and four wagons, without the loss of a man.

Important events are transpiring in the Southwest. The army, according to a despatch from Cairo on Saturday, is all in motion. Gen. Sherman, it is said, left Memphis on Wednesday, and Gen. Grant commenced to move on Friday along the road to Holly Springs. The rebels, meantime, are falling back towards Granada, tearing up the track as they go. It is reported that the rebels are removing all their valuables from Jackson, Miss. Prisoners captured confess the utter hopelessness of their cause in the West.

Our news from Louisiana is important. The new force, as reported at Hilton Head, has entirely disappeared, and the health of our troops is now excellent. An expedition of the colored regiment, South Carolina Volunteers, under Lieut. Col. Beards, made quite a successful affair at Dohy Sound against the enemy, in which the negroes behaved very commendably.

The war seems to be actively prosecuted in North Carolina. A spirited reconnaissance, by a body of Gen. Foster's forces, consisting of the Third New York Cavalry, under command of Lieut. Col. Mix, supported by artillery, was made on the Dover road, in the direction of Kingston, N. C., on the 18th. They met the enemy behind a strong fortification at Cove Creek. After a severe cavalry fight, in which both sides acted gallantly, our artillery shelled the rebels out of their position, leaving their arms, equipments and blankets behind them. Our forces destroyed their barracks and then returned to Newbern.

A party of 4,000 rebels, under Gen. Martin, made an attack on Newbern, N. C., on Tuesday, but were driven back with heavy loss by our troops, commanded by Col. Kurtz, of the Massachusetts 24th.

News has been received by the Navy Department of the recent destruction of five vessels on the coast in the attempt to run the blockade. The vessels were run ashore and abandoned by their crews, and then taken possession of and burnt by order of our commanders. While engaged in this work a boat belonging to the U. S. steamer Cambridge, which had been sent ashore to burn a rebel schooner, was swamped in the surf, and three officers and ten men captured and carried to Richmond.

An important movement is evidently on foot at New Orleans. The steamer Cambridge has arrived at New York, bringing information that a powerful squadron is concentrating in the Mississippi. There are already more vessels at New Orleans than at any time since its capture, a large number of the boats have been armed. There is great activity in military circles preparatory to offensive operations.

A portion of Gen. Banks' troops have embarked for their expedition South, for which formidable preparations have been so long making. Its destination as yet remains a secret.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE. The President sent his message to Congress on Monday. It was received here too late for publication this week, but will appear in our next paper. The message makes no allusion to the President's recommendation for the compensated emancipation of the slaves in the border States, and submits resolutions amendatory to the constitution, for the purpose of carrying the plan into effect.

Our enterprising friend, Ind. D. Sturgis, Esq., of Vassalboro', who is largely engaged in lumbering operations in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, has purchased the steam saw-mill in this city, on the east side of the river, which has been for some years lying idle, and will immediately commence fitting it up for the manufacture of deals for the English market. Two new boilers will be put in, gang-saws set up, and the entire machinery of the mill will be thoroughly refitted and repaired. Spruce timber abounds upon the Kennebec of large dimensions and quality superior to that obtained in any other part of New England or the Provinces. Under the energetic and shrewd management of Mr. Sturgis the enterprise bids fair to prove a successful one.

WE learn by a private letter from the 19th Maine that the regiment was encamped on the 23d ult., in Stafford County, Va., about five miles from Fredericksburg, where they expected to remain a day or two longer, and then rejoin their division under Gen. Howard. The writer speaks of the bad condition of the roads, and fears the army will soon become so difficult as to compel the army to go into winter quarters. The men are in excellent spirits, and are only anxious to push on, hoping for an early opportunity to give the rebels what they deserve. We presume their wishes will be speedily gratified in this respect.

WE learn that the house, barn and out-buildings belonging to Greenleaf Lawrence in South Gardiner, were destroyed by fire on Thursday evening last. The furniture was saved. Loss \$1,300, insured for \$7,000.

THE GREAT EXPEDITION DOWN THE MISSISSIPPI. The Western papers are permitted to publish the following minute and interesting details of the great expedition under Gen. McClelland, which is designed to open the Mississippi river to Western commerce and travel:

"The expedition is being organized on a gigantic scale—Columbus being the point of rendezvous. Major-General McClelland is now there giving his personal supervision to the armament and equipment of the fleet, and taking all the necessary steps to ensure the success of the expedition. His corps d'armee will consist entirely of Western and Northwestern regiments. It will comprise ten regiments from Indiana, twelve regiments from Illinois, four regiments from Wisconsin, two regiments from Minnesota, and some ten thousand troops, infantry, cavalry and artillery, from the army in Kentucky, probably a portion of the late command of Gen. G. W. Morgan's command of Gen. Granger. The cavalry and artillery force will be ample for any emergency.

"In addition to this force, the greatest fleet under the command of Commodore Porter consists of the following vessels:—Benton (flagship), Capt. Gwin, 16 guns; Eastport, Capt. Phelps, 12 guns; Commodore Porter, 12 guns; Cincinnati, Capt. Steele, 13 guns; Cairo, Capt. Bryant, 13 guns; Mound City, Capt. Wilson, 13 guns; Louisville, Capt. Meade, 13 guns; Baron DeKalb (formerly St. Louis), Capt. Winslow, 15 guns; Essex, Capt. F. T. C. Smith, 15 guns; making a total of ten gunboats and one hundred and twenty-one guns. The first great obstacle for the expedition to overcome will be the formidable current between Vicksburg and the mouth of the river. The first great obstacle for the expedition to overcome will be the formidable current between Vicksburg and the mouth of the river. The first great obstacle for the expedition to overcome will be the formidable current between Vicksburg and the mouth of the river.

"The attack upon Vicksburg last summer failed for want of co-operating land forces on our part. McClelland's expedition, however, is planned for the future, and when Vicksburg is again attacked it will be taken by storm by McClelland's troops. Vicksburg captured, and the way is cleared for the advance of the expedition.

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Latest Telegraphic News.

BRILLIANT AFFAIR AT SNICKER'S GAP.

STONEWALL JACKSON IN FULL RETREAT.

REPORTED FALLING BACK OF LEE ON RICHMOND.

IMPORTANT FEDERAL VICTORY IN MISSOURI.

Another Rebel Pirate let loose from Liverpool.

New York, Nov. 25. A despatch from Fairfax (Curt) House states that Gen. Stahel had made a reconnaissance as far as Upperville, satisfying himself that Lee had passed southward Saturday night.

He encountered a large force of rebel cavalry at Lincoln's Ferry, putting them to rout and capturing their arms and a large amount of ordnance and commissary stores. Also 50 cattle.

The enemy retreating, General Stahel pursued them to Berryville where he broke up their camp and closed the flying rebels within four miles of Winchester.

All of White's officers and some 400 private were captured. Their loss was 50 killed and wounded.

General Stahel has pursued the enemy further but for the condition of the horses after so long a ride.

The loss on our side is fifteen killed and wounded.

The Herald's despatch from Headquarters, dated Sunday, contains the following:

The rebels are working with redoubled vigor on the fortifications and their cavalry have been very active and captured a number of our pickets along the forks of the river. Longstreet commands the right and Hill the left of the rebel forces facing the city.

Deserters coming within our lines report that a large body of their forces have been detached and sent off either to Richmond or to reinforce Gen. Jackson.

Our cavalry have captured a number of rebels along the river near this place.

Trains can be heard at all hours running on the Fredericksburg Railroad and coming to within a short distance of the city.

The rebels are evidently very much perplexed and undecided as to what course to take to meet the difficulties which environ them, and which it is probable will increase as the campaign progresses.

New York, Nov. 25. A Harper's Ferry despatch of Sunday says:

We have news from Stonewall Jackson's headquarters, by three different sources, to Saturday morning. Jackson is in full retreat, horse, foot and artillery.

At Sunday on Friday, he continued his retreat from Winchester, and his headquarters on Saturday afternoon and Saturday morning his guard and himself passed through Woodstock, and his whole column was moving up the valley towards the city.

The command was progressing from 20 to 25 miles daily. He was going towards Gordonsville by Harrisonburg and Staunton.

Yesterday the last of the rebel army picked up was withdrawn from, and to-day the coast is entirely clear.

There is every indication that Jackson's retreat this time is real, he having failed to draw our Generals into a trap.

New York, Nov. 25. The World's Falmoth despatch of Sunday says:

It is reported by two rebel deserters that Gen. Lee is in command of the rebel forces opposite us, that yesterday they began to retire on Richmond, and that last night a large force of the enemy were engaged in tearing up the track. Also that when Gen. Lee issued an order for falling back, he notified the commander of the Potomac, that by any indication whatever they gave us information of the movements that were going on, he would burn the town.

A close inspection of the enemy's works, yesterday, showed them to be engaged in a line of earthworks, probably as feints to conceal their real movements.

The building of the bridge over the Rappahannock has been commenced and is prosecuted under the protection of heavy guns.

Matters are growing decidedly interesting, and but a short time will elapse before we will have stirring news from this theatre.

Fortress Monroe, 29. The Northern Progress of late date contains the following:

The gunboat Ellis made a reconnaissance into New York Inlet, destroying extensive rebel works.

Two rebel gunboats have been constructed at Wilmington, but the rebels are short of iron to plate them.

Str. Louis, Nov. 25th, 1862.

To Maj. Gen. H. W. Halleck, General in Chief: Gen. Blunt made forced marches and attacked the enemy yesterday at Cone Hill. The battle ended several hours.

The enemy under Gen. Marmaduke began to fall back about 1 o'clock, but retreated fighting until sundown.

The victory was complete. Our loss is not great. The enemy's loss is much greater than ours.

S. R. CURTIS, Major General.

Care R. 29. The steamer Hibernian, from Liverpool 20th passed this point this evening.

It was reported that another craft similar to the Alabama, had arrived from Liverpool to capture and destroy any vessel sailing under the American flag, and another it is said will soon follow.

FAILURE OF THE FISHERIES. Late numbers of Provincial papers mention that the catch of Cod fish on the coast of Labrador has been unusually small, about one-tenth of what it usually has been. There were reports of large quantities of dead fish floating about the coast. A notice of this peculiar condition of the fishery for the present season, on the coast of Labrador, namely, the wonderfully impoverished condition of the fish caught and cured. He has repeatedly reported fishery returns, the three hundred quintals ought to have produced one hundred and fifty quintals, instead of fifteen, thus leaving the fisherman minus the most important item in the economy of his business.

We are told also, that the herring fishery has this year produced a total failure at the Labrador, scarcely a barrel having been taken from one end of the coast to the other.

It was reported that the herring fishery had failed in entire failure in Newfoundland also. The catch of herring has been very limited on the coast of Nova Scotia as well.

Great complaints are made of the wholesale destruction of fish by French and American fishermen in British fisheries, and calls are made for more stringent enactments. If it is desirable, says the Express, that the negroes be present, should be strictly guarded by legislative enactments, how much more indispensable is it that those great sources of wealth—the Deep Sea Fisheries, be protected from the ignorant cupidity of parties who are annually in the receipt of large dividends from these Ocean Banks, in which they can neither own stock nor chain deposit.

RETAILING. It will be remembered that Mr. McNeil recently caused ten rebels, not prisoners of war, to be shot at Palmyra, Missouri, in consequence of the disappearance of a Union man under circumstances showing that he had been made way with by rebel sympathizers. The rebel population of Palmyra has from the first been so bitter and active, that Gen. McNeil probably regarded the severity of the punishment as a warning to the rebels. The Richmond Examiner of the 23d inst., brings the following order, which makes a most insolent demand.

EXECUTIVE ORDER, RICHMOND, Nov. 17, 1862.

Lieut. Gen. T. J. Holmes, Commanding Trans-Mississippi Department:

Enclosed you will find a slip from the Memphis Daily Appeal, of the 23d inst., containing an account purporting to be derived from the Palmyra (Missouri) Courier, a federal journal, of the murder of ten Confederate citizens of Missouri by order of Gen. McNeil of the United States Army.

You will communicate by flag of truce with the federal officer commanding that department, and inform him of the facts as stated. If he is so, you will demand the immediate surrender of the same. If he refuses to do so, you will inform him that this demand is not complied with, and you will inform him that you are ordered to execute the same. You are to do so at home and in your own way.

Very respectfully yours,

J. M. DAVIS.

THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

THE WHARFHOUSES OF STONEWALL JACKSON.

New York, Nov. 28. Reports received from the front to-day, locate Jackson's advance at Belmont, Orange and Alexandria railroad, near the Rappahannock, in position to endeavor to head Gen. Sigel's force of Gen. Barnside's army.

Other reports center his force along the east end of the Blue Ridge, from the Rappahannock to Snicker Gap, placing the bulk in advance and leaving scouting parties in the rear to observe and harass our lines.

The Herald's special despatch from Aquia Creek, 27th, says the wife and two daughters of Dr. Gillespie, a surgeon in the U. S. Army, who remained at Fredericksburg when it was evacuated by Gen. Barnside last summer, were sent across the river yesterday under a flag of truce.

They state that the whole of Lee's army is concentrating in the vicinity of Fredericksburg and is determined to dispute the passage of the river by our army and contest our advance step by step.

The Situation of Tennessee—The Rebel Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest, who is now in a position to head Gen. Sigel's force of Gen. Barnside's army, is now in a position to head Gen. Sigel's force of Gen. Barnside's army.

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A Volume of Sacred Music, with New and Attractive Songs.

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In the first and only remedy ever offered to the public for the cure of Pin-Worms, or Pin-Worms, from the human system. The high reputation it has established in the last two years, and the fact that it has been used by the most eminent of public health officers, and by the most eminent of private practitioners, is the best evidence of its efficacy.

It affords relief in twenty-four hours, and an Entire Cure is Warranted.

When taken according to directions, which accompany each bottle.

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The splendid and fast Steamship "CHESAPEAKE," Capt. J. B. Harris, will leave for New York, on Wednesday, at 4 o'clock, P. M., and leave for New York, on Wednesday, at 4 o'clock, P. M.

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Leave Portland for Bath and Augusta at 1:00 P. M., on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sundays.

Leave Bath and Augusta for Portland at 1:00 P.

